

## Purpose

The Maine Health Data Organization (MHDO), in collaboration with the Maine Quality Forum, is required by statute to publicly report healthcare cost and quality



information.<sup>i</sup> In September 2015, MHDO will unveil a new health care transparency website, CompareMaine. The website will allow consumers to review and compare information about cost and quality at Maine health care facilities. The innovations for CompareMaine were implemented with funding from an initiative of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to promote price transparency through its Rate Review Grants.<sup>ii</sup> CompareMaine updates and improves upon MHDO's earlier cost compare site, HealthCost, one of the first health cost transparency websites in the country. The site incorporates claims data from the state's all-payer claims database (APCD), as well as quality data from state and national sources. To develop the new site, our team met with stakeholders from consumer groups, industry, and medical associations, consulted with technical experts on several issues including methods for calculating and displaying costs, the selection of quality measures, and cognitive resonance of the website display.

## Key Features

The following section highlights the key features of the CompareMaine website compared to MHDO's HealthCost website.

### Enhancing the Methodology for Producing Cost Estimates

CompareMaine will not take a one-sized fits all approach across all the procedures to produce a cost estimate. We have developed nuanced methodology tailored to each procedure category.

### Increasing the Number of Procedures

CompareMaine will contain the average costs associated with approximately 300 shoppable health care services, that is, procedures that are high volume, non-urgent procedures and treatments that consumers would plan for and schedule in advance.

Procedure Category	HealthCost 2012	HealthCost 2014	Under Review for CompareMaine
Office Visit – Emergency Department, Mental/Behavioral Health, PT, OT, CAM	0	21	111
Labs	0	64	93
Radiology and Imaging	19	30	47
Inpatient/Outpatient Procedures*	11	44	59
<b>Total Procedures</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>310</b>

\*Including vaginal and caesarian section deliveries, total knee replacement, and total hip replacement.

## Expanding the Number of Facilities with Cost Information

CompareMaine will allow users to compare the average cost of health procedures across approximately 200 different facilities and against State and County cost averages.

Facility Type	HealthCost 2012	HealthCost 2014	Under Review for CompareMaine
Ambulatory Surgical Center	12	10	11
Provider-based Clinic/Practice	3	2	90
Hospital	36	35	37
Imaging Center	16	7	41
Medical Center	n/a	n/a	6
Psychiatric Facility	3	1	5
Rehabilitation	n/a	n/a	8
Other/Unclassified	5	1	14
<b>Total Facilities</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>212</b>

## Proposed Strategy to Add Quality Data

On CompareMaine we are proposing to display facility-level quality information alongside cost information for the first time. For the September release, we are focusing on three quality measures for the cost compare by facility display.

It is recommended that a five point scale be displayed using the same word icons for all three quality measures. This aligns with the five star quality rating initiative now being implemented across all of the CMS quality websites (Dialysis Facility Compare, Home Health Compare, Hospital Compare, Nursing Home Compare, and Physician Compare) as well as Medicare Plan Finder and the Health Insurance Marketplace. More detail on the three quality measures is described below.

### Patient Experience

For the Patient Experience measure, CompareMaine will utilize relevant CAHPS measures for different provider types, including HCAHPS for hospitals and CGCAHPS or PCMH-CAHPS for facilities/practices where those surveys are administered.

### Serious Complications

For the Serious Complication measure, CompareMaine will utilize a single complication measure at the facility level as a measure of patient safety. The overall score for serious complications is based on how often adult patients had certain serious, but potentially preventable, complications related to medical or surgical inpatient hospital care.

### Healthcare-associated Infections

For the Healthcare-associated Infections measure, CompareMaine will utilize a single infection rate measure. We are examining rates for C. diff and MRSA infection, which are two commonly used quality measures and familiar to consumers as areas of concern.

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<sup>i</sup> Maine Legislature, Title 22 Chapter 1683 §8712. Last updated 1/05/2015. Available at <http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/22/title22sec8712.html>

<sup>ii</sup> The Center for Consumer Information & Insurance Oversight. Available at <http://www.cms.gov/ccio/Resources/Rate-Review-Grants/me.html>